# INTERCONNECTION AND TRAFFIC INTERCHANGE AGREEMENT FOR CELLULAR AND OTHER 2-WAY MOBILE RADIO SERVICES

## Between

Rhinelander Telephone Company (d/b/a Frontier Rhinelander Telephone Company)

and
American Cellular Corporation (and Affiliates)

Dated: January 10, 2003

# INTERCONNECTION AND TRAFFIC INTERCHANGE AGREEMENT CELLULAR AND OTHER 2-WAY MOBILE RADIO SERVICES

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

		<u>Page</u>
SECTION 1.	DEFINITIONS	1
SECTION 2.	INTERCONNECTION	3
SECTION 3.	USE OF FACILITIES AND SERVICES	5 7
SECTION 4.	CHARGES FOR FACILITIES AND ARRANGEMENTS	7
SECTION 5.	BILLING AND PAYMENTS	9
SECTION 6.	AUDIT	10
SECTION 7.	TERM AND TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT	10
SECTION 8.	CONFIDENTIALITY AND PUBLICITY	11
SECTION 9.	LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY	12
SECTION 10.	INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY	13
SECTION 11.		13
SECTION 12.	RECORD RETENTION	14
SECTION 13.	AMENDMENTS; WAIVERS	15
SECTION 14.	NOTICES AND DEMANDS	15
SECTION 15.	ASSIGNMENT	15
SECTION 16.		15
SECTION 17.		16
SECTION 18.	GOVERNING LAW	16
SECTION 19.	EXECUTED IN COUNTERPARTS	16
SECTION 20.	HEADINGS	16
SECTION 21.	FORCE MAJEURE	16
SECTION 22.		17
SECTION 23.	SEVERABILITY	17
SECTION 24.	CONDITIONS TO INDEMNIFICATION	17
SECTION 25.	NO JOINT VENTURE	17
SECTION 26	REMEDIES	17
SECTION 27.	TIME OF ESSENCE	17
SECTION 28	PRONOUNS	17
SECTION 29	FURTHER ASSURANCES	18

ATTACHMENT 1 - CONTACT LIST

SERVICE ATTACHMENT - TYPE 2A

# INTERCONNECTION AND TRAFFIC INTERCHANGE AGREEMENT CELLULAR AND OTHER 2-WAY MOBILE RADIO SERVICES

THIS AGREEMENT is made this \_10 th \_\_\_ day of \_\_January\_\_\_, 2003 by and between Rhinelander Telephone Company (d/b/a Frontier Rhinelander Telephone Company), a Wisconsin corporation, with offices at 180 South Clinton Avenue, Rochester, New York, 14646 (referred to as "Rhinelander Telephone Company"), and American Cellular Corporation, a Delaware corporation, together with its affiliates (as defined by the regulations of the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC")) with its office at 14201 Wireless Way, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73134, collectively referred to as the "Carrier". Carrier and Rhinelander Telephone Company may also be referred to herein collectively as the "Parties" and singularly as a "Party".

## WITNESSETH:

Rhinelander Telephone Company is an authorized telecommunications carrier engaged in providing 2-way telecommunications service in the state identified in the Attachment(s); and

Carrier is an authorized telecommunications carrier by radio engaged in providing commercial mobile radio communications service ("CMRS") in the state identified in the Attachment(s); and

Rhinelander Telephone Company and Carrier desire to interconnect their facilities and interchange traffic for the provision of telecommunications service pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 251(a) (2);

In consideration of their mutual agreements, Rhinelander Telephone Company and Carrier agree as follows:

## **SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS**

For purposes of this Agreement, the following definitions will apply:

ACCESS TANDEM -- Rhinelander Telephone Company switching system that provides a traffic concentration and distribution function for traffic originating from or terminating to end offices in the access area.

AUTOMATIC NUMBER IDENTIFICATION ("ANI") -- The automatic identification of the calling station.

AUTHORIZED SERVICES -- CMRS which the Carrier now or hereafter provides to its end users on an interconnected basis.

CARRIER'S PREMISES -- A location designated by the Carrier for the purposes of originating or terminating services provided by Rhinelander Telephone Company.

CARRIER'S SYSTEM -- The communications system of Carrier used to furnish CMRS.

CENTRAL OFFICE PREFIX (NXX Code) -- The first three digits of the seven-digit directory number and associated block of 10,000 numbers for use in accordance with the North American Dialing Plan.

RHINELANDER TELEPHONE COMPANY SYSTEM -- The communications network of Citizens.

DEDICATED NXX -- An NXX which the Carrier has obtained from the number administrator for dedication to its exclusive use and sole administration.

END OFFICE -- The Rhinelander Telephone Company central office trunking/switching entity where telephone loops are terminated for purposes of interconnection to each other and to the network.

LOCAL CALLING AREA -- (1) The applicable Major Trading Area ("MTA") will be used to define the local calling area for all telecommunications traffic originated on the system of Carrier and interchanged with Rhinelander Telephone Company for delivery in Rhinelander Telephone Company or subtending third party exchange areas in the same MTA; (2) Rhinelander Telephone Company local calling areas, as defined by state regulatory authorities, will be used to define the local calling area for all telecommunications traffic originated on the system of Rhinelander Telephone Company and interchanged with Carrier. These definitions of "local calling area" will not be deemed to affect the right of either Party to bill its own end-users its own charges for any such call, nor its right to reciprocal compensation, as defined in Section 51.701 of the FCC's Rules.

LOCAL TRAFFIC --is that telecommunications traffic, which originates and terminates within the same MTA as defined in 47 C.F.R. § 24.202(a). For purposes of determining whether traffic originates and terminates within the same MTA, and therefore whether the traffic is local, the location of the end office serving the landline end user and the location of the cell site that serves the mobile end user at the beginning of the call shall be used.

MAJOR TRADING AREA -- The Major Trading Area ("MTA") is defined as the local calling scope for interconnection and is based on the Rand McNally 1992 Commercial Atlas & Marketing Guide, 123<sup>rd</sup> Edition, at pages 38-39, with the exceptions contained in Section 24.202(a) of the Rules of the Federal Communications Commission.

MOBILE SWITCHING OFFICE (MSO) -- The Mobile Switching Office used by Carrier in performing originating and terminating functions for calls interchanged between Carrier's customer and the public switched network.

LAND-TO-MOBILE DIRECTION -- Calls from landline customers to Carrier's system. Also referred to as land-to-mobile.

POINT OF INTERCONNECTION (POI) -- Point of Interconnection means the physical location(s) at which the Parties' networks meet within Rhinelander Telephone Company exchange boundary or the Parties' trunk groups connect at a meet point at the Rhinelander Telephone Company service area boundary for the purpose of establishing interconnection.

SERVICE AREA – Carrier's Service Area is defined as the geographic area in which Carrier is authorized by the FCC to provide services. Rhinelander Telephone Service Area is defined as the geographic area in which Rhinelander Telephone Company is authorized by the Wisconsin Public Service Commission to provide local telephone service.

SERVING END OFFICE -- The location from which the Carrier designated premise would normally obtain dial tone from Rhinelander Telephone Company.

MOBILE-TO-LAND DIRECTION -- Calls from Carrier's premises to landline customers. Also referred to as mobile-to-land.

TOLL BILLING EXCEPTION (TBE) -- A service which restricts operator assisted (0-, 0+) land-to-mobile calls from being sent on a collect (charged to mobile line) basis.

TYPE 2A INTERCONNECTION -- The connection of Carrier's System at Rhinelander Telephone Company access tandem switch. Type 2A interconnection provides connectivity between the Wireless MSC and all end offices subtending the tandem, and will be used by the Carrier to deliver mobile to land intraMTA traffic to NXX's which reside in Rhinelander Telephone Company end offices which subtend Rhinelander Telephone Company tandem and to receive land to mobile intraMTA traffic from the end offices which subtend the Rhinelander Telephone Company tandem.

TYPE 2B INTERCONNECTION -- A high-usage connection between Carrier's system and a Rhinelander Telephone Company end office. A Type 2B interconnection is an interconnection between the Wireless MSC and a Rhinelander Telephone Company End Office, and shall be used to exchange calls originated by or addressed to numbers that are homed in such End Office.

WIRELESS CARRIER -- Telecommunications common carrier authorized by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) under FCC rules Part 22 (47 CFR Part 22), Part 24 (47 CFR Part 24), and Part 90 (47 CFR Part 90) which utilizes radio as the principal means of connecting its end-user subscribers with the Public Switched Telephone Network.

## **SECTION 2. INTERCONNECTION**

- 2.1 The Parties acknowledge that they currently have facilities and arrangements in place to interconnect their Systems. Subject to the applicable interconnection rules and regulations, Citizens will provide to Carrier, upon request, additional or alternative connecting facilities and arrangements described herein and in the Attachments hereto to establish the physical interconnection and interchange of traffic provided for herein and such other facilities Carrier may require and request for operation of its system. Connecting facilities, when provided by Citizens will be provided pursuant to Rhinelander Telephone Company applicable approved tariffs for dedicated access. Nothing herein shall be construed to limit either Party's right to provision Connecting Facilities from alternative sources where they are used exclusively to carry calls originated by the provisioning Party and the provisioning party pays for all of the costs of the Connecting Facilities provided by an alternative source.
- 2.2 All interchanged traffic directly exchanged between the Parties will be handled only over trunks and connecting facilities as described herein. The type of direct interconnections offered under this Agreement are designated as Type 2A, and Type 2B, as defined in Section 1. All interchanged traffic indirectly exchanged between the Parties with the use the facilities of a third-party carrier shall be subject to reciprocal compensation in accordance with the provisions of Section 4.
- 2.3 Carrier may request activation/addition of new locations under the terms and conditions of this Agreement at any time during the term by submitting a request for interconnection to Rhinelander Telephone Company Interconnection organization. The Parties will enter into an amended Service Attachment to reflect activation or addition of new locations. The Service Attachment will be signed by Rhinelander Telephone Company authorized representative and Carrier's authorized representative, affixed to this Agreement, and thereby being made a wholly part and subject to this Agreement. To the extent that any of the Service Attachments may be inconsistent with or in conflict with this Agreement, the Agreement will prevail.

## 2.4 Signaling Systems and Administration

- 2.4.1 The Parties will, where Rhinelander Telephone Company has the capability, interconnect their networks using SS7 signaling associated with all interconnection trunk groups as defined in Telcordia GR-246 "Bell Communications Research Specification of Signaling Systems 7 (SS7) and GR-905, "Common Channel Signaling Network Interface Specification (CCSNIS) Supporting Interconnection, Message Transfer Part (MTP), and Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) User Part (ISUP) "including ISDN User Part ("ISUP") for trunk signaling and Transaction Capabilities Application Part ("TCAP") for CCS-based features in the interconnection of their networks provided use of SS7 signaling allows for measurement of land to mobile and mobile to land traffic. For glare resolution, Rhinelander Telephone Company will have priority on odd trunk group member circuit identification codes, and carrier will have priority on even trunk group member circuit identification codes, unless otherwise mutually agreed.
- 2.5 The terms and conditions of this Agreement will prevail over and supersede any other conflicting rates, terms and conditions contained on Carrier's purchase order for services provided under this Agreement.

## 2.6 Physical Interconnection

- 2.6.1 For purposes of this Agreement and in response to Carrier's request, Rhinelander Telephone Company and Carrier will physically establish the POI and interconnect their facilities at a mutually agreed to meet point at Rhinelander Telephone Company service area boundary, and interchange traffic originating and/or terminating on Carrier's System in connection with Carrier's Authorized Services; such interconnection will be in accordance with the service, operating and facility arrangements set forth hereinafter.
- 2.6.2 Each Party is responsible for provisioning and maintaining interconnect facilities on its side of the POI and for all costs of delivering Traffic to the POI as further provided in this Agreement, with neither party being responsible for the delivery of exchanged traffic from the POI to the switching facility of the other party. Thus, Rhinelander Telephone Company shall have no responsibility for delivering traffic to a point of interconnection located at any point beyond the Rhinelander Telephone Company service area boundary. Rhinelander Telephone Company shall bear the recurring and non-recurring costs of trunks and facilities to deliver traffic between its tandem and the POI, and Carrier shall bear the recurring and non-recurring costs of trunks and facilities used to transport exchanged traffic between its MSO and the POI. This provision does not address facilities used by Carrier for purposes other than interconnection.

## 2.7 Sizing and Structure of Interconnection Facilities

- 2.7.1 The Parties will mutually agree on the appropriate sizing for facilities based on the standards set forth below. The capacity of interconnection facilities provided by each Party will be based on mutual forecasts and sound engineering practice, as mutually agreed to by the Parties.
- 2.7.2 The electrical interface at Points of Interconnections (POIs) will be DS1 or DS3 as mutually agreed to by the Parties. When a DS3 interface is agreed to by the Parties, Rhinelander Telephone Company will provide any multiplexing required for DS1 facilities or trunking at their end and Carrier will provide any DS1 multiplexing required for facilities or trunking at their end.
- 2.7.3 Rhinelander Telephone Company and Carrier will engineer all Traffic Exchange Trunks using a network loss plan conforming to ANSI T1.508-1998 and ANSI T1.508-1998 Supplement A.
- 2.8. Where additional equipment is required, such equipment would be obtained, engineered, and installed on the same basis and with the same intervals as any similar growth job for Carriers, or Rhinelander Telephone Company internal customer demand.

## 2.9 Trunk Forecasting

2.9.1 The Parties will work towards the development of joint forecasting responsibilities for traffic utilization over interconnection trunk groups covered in this agreement. Orders for trunks that exceed forecasted quantities for forecasted locations will be accommodated as facilities and/or equipment becomes available. Parties will make all reasonable efforts and cooperate in good faith to develop alternative solutions to accommodate orders when facilities are not available. Intercompany forecast information must be provided by the Parties to each other upon reasonable request. Rhinelander Telephone Company preference is a semi-annual forecast covering the following 24-month period.

#### 2.10 Grade of Service

- 2.10.1 Each Party will provision their network to provide a P.01 grade of service.
- 2.10.2 The characteristics and methods of operation of any circuits, facilities or equipment of either Party connected with the services, facilities or equipment of the other Party pursuant to this Agreement shall not interfere with or impair service over any facilities of the other Party, its affiliated companies, or its connecting and concurring carriers involved in its services, cause damage to their plant,

violate any applicable law or regulation regarding the invasion of privacy of any communications carried over the Party's facilities or create hazards to the employees of either Party or to the public (each hereinafter referred to as an "Impairment of Service").

- 2.10.3 Each Party will advise the other of any critical nature of the interoperative facilities, service, and arrangements and any need for expedited clearance of trouble. In cases where a Party has indicated the essential or critical need for restoration of the facilities, services or arrangements, the other Party will use its best efforts to expedite the clearance of trouble.
- 2.11 For purposes of delivering Land to Mobile traffic to the POI, Rhinelander Telephone Company agrees to recognize the rating and routing points assigned by Carrier to its NPA/NXX codes in accord with procedures set forth in this Agreement and the Local Exchange Routing Guide ("LERG"), and to treat such Land to Mobile calls delivered to the POI the same way for rating and dialing purposes that it treats calls by

its customers to landline numbers identified with the same rate centers.

#### SECTION 3. USE OF FACILITIES AND SERVICES

- 3.1 The interconnecting facilities will be used only for the handling of interchanged traffic originating or terminating on Carrier's System in connection with Carrier's Authorized Services. Rhinelander Telephone Company will not be responsible for contracts relating to Carrier's interconnection with any other LEC.
- 3.2 Connecting circuits, facilities and arrangements provided pursuant to this Agreement will not be used, switched or otherwise connected together by Carrier for the provision of through calling from a landline telephone to another landline telephone or from a landline telephone to an Internet Service Provider. The only exception is when Carrier's end-user "call forwards" to a landline telephone.
- 3.3 Connecting circuits, facilities and arrangements provided to Carrier by Rhinelander Telephone Company will not be used knowingly for any purpose or in any manner, directly or indirectly, in violation of law or in aid of any unlawful act or undertaking.
- When needed and upon request by Carrier, special construction will be undertaken in accordance with the applicable Rhinelander Telephone Company tariff or as mutually negotiated by the Parties.
- 3.5 Any other provision of this Agreement notwithstanding, Rhinelander Telephone Company will recognize, deliver traffic to, accept traffic from, and otherwise honor the validity of any NXX assigned to Carrier by a third party in accordance with 47 USC Section 251(e) (or related FCC or state number administration rules).

## 3.6 Network Harm

- 3.6.1 Neither Party will use any service related to or use any of the services provided in this Agreement in any manner that interferes with third parties in the use of their service, prevents third parties from using their service, impairs the quality of service to other carriers or to either Party's Customers; causes electrical hazards to either Party's personnel, damage to either Party's equipment or malfunction of either Party's billing equipment (individually and collectively, "Network Harm"). If a Network Harm will occur or if a Party reasonably determines that a Network Harm is imminent, such Party will, where practicable, notify the other Party that temporary discontinuance or refusal of service may be required; provided, however, wherever prior notice is not practicable, such Party may temporarily discontinue or refuse service forthwith, if such action is reasonable under the circumstances. In case of such temporary discontinuance or refusal, such Party will:
  - (a) Promptly notify the other Party of such temporary discontinuance or refusal;

- (b) Afford the other Party the opportunity to correct the situation which gave rise to such temporary discontinuance or refusal; and
- (c) Inform the other Party of its right to bring a complaint to the Commission or FCC.
- 3.7 Rhinelander Telephone Company and Carrier each may make reasonable tests and inspections of its facilities and may, upon notice and coordination with the other, temporarily interrupt the facilities being tested or inspected, so long as impairment or restriction of the operation of facilities is minimized. When cooperative testing is requested by either Party, such testing will be done in accordance with this Section 3
- 3.8 The characteristics and methods of operation of any circuits, facilities or equipment of either Party connected with the services, facilities or equipment of the other Party pursuant to this Agreement will not interfere with or impair service over any facilities of either Party, its Affiliates, or its connecting and concurring carriers involved in its services, cause damage to their plant, invade the privacy of any communications carried over either Party's facilities or create hazards to the employees of any of them or to the public.
- 3.9 Carrier will be solely responsible, at its expense, for the overall design of its services and for any redesigning or rearrangement of its services which may be required because of changes in facilities, operations or procedures of Rhinelander Telephone Company, minimum network protection criteria, operating or maintenance characteristics of the facilities.
- 3.10 Mobile customers of Carrier will be instructed to report all cases of trouble to Carrier. In order to facilitate trouble reporting and to coordinate the repair of service provided to Carrier by Rhinelander Telephone Company under this Agreement, "Citizens 24-Hour Repair Center" will provide 24-hour trouble reporting for Carrier.
- 3.10.1 Where new facilities, services and arrangements are installed, Rhinelander Telephone Company, via the Network Operations Center ("NOC"), will ensure that continuity has been established and that appropriate transmission measurements have been made before advising Carrier that the new circuit is ready for service.
- 3.10.2 Rhinelander Telephone Company will furnish a trouble reporting telephone number for the designated NOC. See Attachment 1. This number will give Carrier access to the location where its facility records are normally located and where current status reports on any trouble reports are readily available. Alternative out-of-hours procedures will be established to ensure access by Carrier to a location which is staffed and has the authority to initiate corrective action.
- 3.10.3 Before Carrier reports a trouble condition, it will use its commercially reasonable efforts to isolate the trouble to Rhinelander Telephone Company facilities.
- 3.10.4 In cases where a trouble condition adversely affects Carrier's service, Rhinelander Telephone Company will give Carrier the same priority extended to other telephone companies.
  - 3.10.5 Rhinelander Telephone Company and Carrier will cooperate in isolating the trouble.
- 3.11 Trunking arrangements shall be established as follows:
  - 3.11.1 Separate trunk groups for the exchange of Local Traffic.
- 3.11.2 Separate trunk groups to be used solely for the transmission and routing of Exchange Access Services to enable Interexchange Carriers to originate and terminate traffic from/to Carrier.
- 3.11.3 Where applicable, separate trunks connecting Carrier's switch to Rhinelander Telephone Company E911 routers. If Carrier purchases such services from Rhinelander Telephone Company, they will be provided at full applicable tariff rates. For all 911/E911 traffic originating from Carrier, it is the

responsibility of Carrier and the appropriate state or local public safety-answering agency to negotiate the manner in which 911/E911 traffic from Carrier will be processed.

## SECTION 4. CHARGES FOR FACILITIES AND ARRANGEMENTS

- 4.1 <u>Reciprocal Termination Charges</u>. This form of reciprocal termination charging is a usage-sensitive in which each party assesses the other usage-sensitive charges for the termination of traffic on each other's system. The Service Attachment(s) to this Agreement reflects the initial POI's, reciprocal rates, and billing factors agreed to by the Parties for indirect interconnection and termination of Local Traffic and for direct interconnection for Type 2A and Type 2B interconnection and termination of Local Traffic.
- 4.2 <u>Reciprocal Transport Charges</u>. Each Party is solely responsible for delivery of exchanged calls between its network and the designated POI, at which the parties will exchange traffic originated by each of them. Each Party will bear all transport costs on its side of the single POI.
- 4.3 <u>Reciprocal Termination Charges</u>. Rhinelander Telephone Company and Carrier shall reciprocally and symmetrically compensate one another for Local Traffic originated on their Systems and terminated on the other Party's System. Reciprocal Termination Charges are assessed on a per minute basis. The rates at which the Parties shall compensate each other for Local Traffic are set forth on the Service Attachments to this Agreement. For the interchange of Non-Local Traffic, Carrier shall pay Rhinelander Telephone Company at the applicable switched access service tariff rate.
- 4.4 Each Party will charge and collect from the other Party appropriate federal, state and local taxes. Where a Party notifies the other Party and provides appropriate documentation that such Party qualifies for partial or full exemption, then the billing Party will not collect such taxes from the other Party.
- 4.5 In the absence of an agreement among Carrier, Rhinelander Telephone Company and other affected local exchange carriers in the MTA in which Carrier's System is located, Rhinelander Telephone Company has no obligation to deliver calls in the MOBILE-TO-LAND DIRECTION to points in the MTA in which Carrier's System is located that are beyond Rhinelander Telephone Company local exchange boundaries. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, Rhinelander Telephone Company will provide transit service at its tandem for calls to and from the ILEC end offices subtending its tandem at the rates set forth in the Service Attachments.
- 4.6 Billing by either Party for calls to be terminated on its own network will begin with the delivery of answer supervision and will end at the delivery of disconnect supervision.
- 4.7 Minutes of use, or fractions thereof, are accumulated over the billing period. Fractions of minutes are rounded up monthly to the nearest whole minute for total minutes for each end office for billing purposes.
- 4.8 For the purpose of this Agreement, the Parties, when the necessary facilities are deployed, agree to utilize industry standard technical arrangements enabling each Party to provide the other Party with all electronic signaling data necessary to bill terminating traffic, including but not limited to ANI.
- When measurement capabilities are not available in a Rhinelander Telephone Company end office or access tandem, the following assumed minutes of use figures will apply to charges for reciprocal compensation for traffic directly exchanged between Parties in both the MOBILE-TO-LAND DIRECTION and the LAND-TO-MOBILE DIRECTION: 5,000 minutes of use per month for each voice grade connecting circuit or 120,000 minutes of use each month for each DS-1 connecting circuit. These assumed minutes of use will be billed in accordance with terms and conditions of this Agreement and the directionality of the traffic as identified in the Service Attachment. For example, if 66.67% of the traffic was MOBILE-TO-LAND and 33.33% of the traffic was LAND-TO-MOBILE, Rhinelander Telephone Company would bill Carrier for 3,334 minutes per month and Carrier would bill Rhinelander Telephone

Company for 1,666 minutes per month for each activated voice grade circuit (80,000 and 40,000 respectively for a fully activated DS-1). When measurement capabilities are not available in a Rhinelander Telephone Company end office, the Parties will mutually agree upon reciprocal compensation for traffic indirectly exchanged between Parties in both the MOBILE-TO-LAND DIRECTION and the LAND-TO-MOBILE DIRECTION. The applicability of this arrangement referenced in this paragraph may be altered or terminated at any time once Rhinelander Telephone Company has the ability to record actual minutes of use or an alternative method can be established.

- Subject to adjustment in the manner set forth in this section 4.9.1, it will be initially assumed that the Mobile to Land traffic factor is 66.67% - Carrier shall assume 66.67% ownership of the assumed minutes as referenced in 4.9 above. Rhinelander Telephone Company shall assume 33.33% ownership of assumed minutes exchanged between them. This assumption, which is based on the best information available as of the date of this agreement is included in the Service Attachment and, may be revised in the event of a request by either Party once every six months. When such a request is made, each Party shall provide the other with the best information reasonably available indicating the actual number of Carrier originated and Rhinelander Telephone Company-originated Local Calls exchanged between them during the six previous months. If such data indicates that either Party has terminated more than 55% of total Local Traffic exchanged between them, the actual percentages thus arrived at will be used to apportion the costs of shared interconnect facilities between the two systems (pursuant to section 4.2 above) and to calculate reciprocal compensation pursuant to section 4.9 above. If such data indicates that both Parties have terminated less than 55% of total Local Traffic exchanged between them, the Parties may mutually agree to exchange traffic an a bill and keep basis. Any dispute arising from a request for adjustment of the factors described herein shall be resolved in the manner described in section 16 below.
- 4.9.2 In the event Carrier is unable to determine the amount of Land-to-Mobile Local Traffic it terminates from Rhinelander Telephone Company or is unable to direct bill Rhinelander Telephone Company based on actual Land-to-Mobile local Traffic, Carrier will bill Rhinelander Telephone Company for usage and two-way Connecting Facilities based on the Traffic Factors set forth on the Service Attachment. The initial traffic factors set forth on the Service Attachment will remain in effect for a minimum of six (6) months after this Agreement becomes effective and will only be subject to change once every subsequent six (6) months.
- 4.10 Each Service Attachment shall reflect which method of compensation will be used (i.e. actual minutes, assumed minutes, trunk signaling, or other special arrangements).
- 4.11 Transit Service. "Transit Service" means the delivery of certain traffic between Carrier and a third party ILEC, CLEC or CMRS provider by Rhinelander Telephone Company over the Telephone Exchange Service trunks where Telephone Exchange Service trunks exist between Carrier and third party through Rhinelander Telephone Company tandem. The following traffic types will be delivered: (I) Local Traffic or IntraLATA Toll originated from Carrier to such LEC and (ii) Local IntraLATA traffic originated from such LEC and terminated to Carrier where Rhinelander Telephone Company carries such traffic.
  - 4.11.1 The Parties shall compensate each other for Transit Service as follows:
    - 4.13.1.1 Carrier shall pay Rhinelander Telephone Company a transit service charge as set forth in the Attachments for traffic originating on Carrier's System and transiting Rhinelander Telephone Company tandem and terminating to a Rhinelander Telephone Company third party carrier end office subtending Rhinelander Telephone Company tandem. Rhinelander Telephone Company
    - 4.11.1.2 Each Party acknowledges that the transiting Party does not have any responsibility to pay any charges for termination of any transit traffic originating from a non-Party's network.

## SECTION 5. BILLING & PAYMENTS

5.1 In consideration of the services provided by Frontier Rhinelander Telephone Company under this Agreement, Carrier shall pay the charges set forth in this Agreement and in applicable tariffs. In consideration of the services provided by Carrier under this Agreement, Frontier Rhinelander Telephone Company shall pay the charges set forth in this Agreement and in applicable tariffs. Invoices with charges set forth in this Agreement and in applicable tariffs shall be sent to:

To Carrier:

American Cellular Corporation Attn: Timothy J. Duffy 14201 Wireless Way, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73134

To Frontier Rhinelander Telephone Company:

Frontier, A Citizens Communications Company Attention: Access Verification 14500 Burnhaven Dr. Suite 193 Burnsville, MN 55306

- A monthly billing statement with a consistent, regular bill date shall be prepared by both Parties and will reflect the calculation of (i) reciprocal compensation due each Party and (ii) transit service compensation due Rhinelander Telephone Company, and (iii) any other tariffed or contracted service due each Party. All bills dated as set forth above will be due thirty (30) days after the bill date or by the next bill date (i.e., the same date in the following month as the bill date), whichever is the shortest interval, except as provided herein, and are payable in immediately available funds. If such payment date would cause payment to be due on a Saturday, Sunday or Legal Holiday, payment for such bills will be due on the last business day preceding the Saturday, Sunday or Legal Holiday. If such bills are not received at least thirty (30) days prior to the payment due date, then the bill(s) shall be considered delayed. When a bill has been delayed, the due date will be extended by the number of days the bill was delayed, upon request of the receiving Party.
- 5.2.1 Except as set forth above at sections 4.9 with respect to assumed minutes billing, the Parties will compensate each other on verifiable records of actual usage.
- 5.3 Billing: The Parties agree that disputed and undisputed amounts due under this Agreement shall be handled as follows:
- 5.3.1 If any portion of an amount due to a Party (the "Billing Party") under this Agreement is subject to a bona fide dispute between the Parties, the Party billed (the Billed Party) shall within thirty (60) days of its receipt of the invoice containing such a disputed amount give written notice to the Billing Party of the amount it disputes ("Disputed Amounts") and include in such notice the specific details and reasons for disputing each item. The Billed Party shall pay when due all undisputed amounts to the Billing Party, and shall include a copy of the dispute with the payment of the undisputed amount.
- 5.3.2 In the event that a billing dispute is resolved in favor of the Billed Party, any payment of the disputed amount withheld pending settlement of the dispute shall not be subject to the late payment penalty.
  - 5.3.3 In the event that a billing dispute is resolved in favor of the Billing Party, any payments withheld pending settlement of the dispute will be subject to the late payment penalty set forth in 5.3.4 following.

- 5.3.5 Undisputed amounts shall be paid when due as set forth in Section 5.2 above. If any portion of the payment is received by the Billing Party in funds that are not immediately available to the Billing Party, a late payment penalty shall be due to the Billing Party. The late payment penalty shall be 1.5% per month or 18% annually, or the maximum allowed by law, whichever is less.
- 5.4 Both Parties shall use the Dispute Resolutions Procedures as described in Section 16.
- 5.5 In consideration of the services provided under this Agreement, the Parties shall pay the charges set forth in this Agreement and applicable tariffs. Any service provided, that is not identified in agreement will be governed by applicable tariffs.

## **SECTION 6. AUDIT**

Either Party may, upon written notice to the other Party, conduct an audit, during normal business hours, only on the source data/documents as they may contain information bearing upon the services being provided under the terms and conditions of this Agreement. An audit may be conducted no more frequently than once per 12-month period, and only to verify the other Party's compliance with provisions of this Agreement. The notice requesting an audit must identify the date upon which it is requested to commence, the estimated duration, the materials to be reviewed, and the number of individuals who will be performing the audit. Each audit will be conducted expeditiously. Any audit is to be performed as follows: (i) following at least 45 days prior written notice to the audited Party; (ii) subject to the reasonable scheduling requirements, during ordinary business hours, and limitations of the audited Party; (iii) at the auditing Party's sole cost and expense; (iv) of a reasonable scope and duration; (v) in a manner so as not to interfere with the audited Party's business operations. Any other provision of this Section 6 notwithstanding, each Party shall have the right to audit only such data and records as are available in (or reproducible on) paper or other tangible (non-electronic) medium, and neither Party may have access to the other Party's electronic records without the other's prior written consent.

## SECTION 7. TERM AND TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT

- 7.1 This Agreement will become effective upon the first business day following the date this Agreement has been approved by the applicable regulatory authority or authorities and will continue for a period of two (2) years unless terminated earlier under the conditions set forth in this Section. This Agreement will be automatically renewed for successive periods of six (6) months after the initial term unless either Party provides the other Party with no less than ninety (90) day's prior, written notification of, in the case of Rhinelander Telephone Company, its intent to terminate this Agreement, or, in the case of either Party, its desire to renegotiate at the end of the initial or any successive period. During any such renegotiation, the rates, terms and conditions of this Agreement will remain in effect until the effective date of the renegotiated agreement or arbitrated agreement.
- 7.2 In the event Carrier ceases to engage in the business of providing public land mobile radio service, either Party may terminate this Agreement on thirty (30) calendar days notice subject, however, to payment for facilities or arrangements provided or for costs incurred. Rhinelander Telephone Company will consult with Carrier prior to termination by Rhinelander Telephone Company.
- 7.3 This Agreement will immediately terminate upon the suspension, revocation or termination by other means of either Party's authority to provide communications services over its System.
- 7.4 This Agreement may be terminated at any time by either Party upon not less than thirty (30) calendar days notice, providing an opportunity to cure, to the other Party as set forth in Section 15 following, for material breach or failure to pay the other Party all undisputed charges on the dates or at

the times specified in the applicable invoice for the facilities and services furnished pursuant to this Agreement.

- 7.5 If a dispute arises between the Parties as to the proper charges for the facilities or arrangements furnished, or any other financial arrangements, the failure to pay an amount in dispute will not constitute cause for termination of this Agreement provided that a bond or escrow account (or other security arrangement reasonably acceptable to both Parties) is made for the security of the amount in dispute. The continuation of such dispute will not be deemed cause for Rhinelander Telephone Company to refuse to furnish additional facilities or arrangements upon reasonable request of Carrier or otherwise relieve the Parties of their obligation to fully comply with the provisions hereof as to which no dispute exists, provided financial security for payment of the amount in dispute has been made as stated above. Any dispute arising as to the security arrangement under this Section 7.5 will be subject to the dispute resolution provisions of Section 17 below.
- 7.6 Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Agreement, this Agreement may be terminated at any time as mutually agreed by the Parties.

#### **SECTION 8. CONFIDENTIALITY AND PUBLICITY**

- 8.1 All proprietary or confidential information ("Proprietary Information") disclosed by either Party during the negotiations and the term of this Agreement will be protected by both Parties in accordance with the terms of this Section 8.
- 8.2 As used in this Agreement, the term "Proprietary Information" will mean written, recorded, machine readable or other information provided in tangible form to one Party by the other Party regarding the above referenced subject matter and which is marked proprietary or confidential with the appropriate owner corporation name, e.g., "Rhinelander Telephone Company Proprietary". Billing detail and call records generated by the parties in order to carry out their responsibilities hereunder will also be considered proprietary to the Carrier whose customers have originated the relevant calls. Information disclosed orally will not be considered proprietary unless such information is reduced to writing by the disclosing Party and a copy is delivered to the other Party within thirty (30) business days after such oral disclosure. The writing will also state the place, date and person(s) to whom disclosure was made.
- 8.3 Each Party agrees that it will not disclose any Proprietary Information of the other Party in whole or in part, including derivations, to any third party for a period of three (3) years from the date of disclosure unless the Parties agree to modify this Agreement to provide for a different nondisclosure period for specific materials. Neither Party will be liable for inadvertent or accidental disclosure of Proprietary Information of the other Party provided that:
  - (i) each Party uses at least the same degree of care in safeguarding such Proprietary Information as it uses for its own proprietary information of like importance and such degree of care will be reasonably calculated to prevent such inadvertent disclosure:
  - (ii) it limits access to such Proprietary Information to its employees, attorneys and agents who are directly involved in the consideration of the Proprietary Information and informs its employees and agents who have access to such Proprietary Information of its duty not to disclose; and
  - (iii) upon discovery of any such inadvertent disclosure of Proprietary Information, it will endeavor to prevent any further inadvertent disclosure.
- 8.4 Information will not be deemed proprietary and the receiving Party will have no obligation with respect to any such information which:
  - (i) is or becomes publicly known through no wrongful act, fault or negligence of the receiving Party; or

- (ii) was known by the receiving Party or by any other affiliate or subsidiary of the receiving Party prior to disclosure, or is at any time developed by the receiving Party independently of any such disclosure; or
- (iii) was disclosed to the receiving Party by a third party who was free of obligations of confidentiality to the disclosing Party; or
- (iv) is disclosed or used by the receiving Party, not less than three (3) years following its initial disclosure or such other nondisclosure period as may be agreed in writing by the Parties; or is approved for release by written authorization of the disclosing Party; or
- (v) is disclosed pursuant to a requirement or request of a governmental agency or disclosure is required by operation of law.
- 8.5 Since either Party may choose not to use or announce any services, products or marketing techniques relating to these discussions or information gained or exchanged during the discussions, both Parties acknowledge that one is not responsible or liable for any business decisions made by the other in reliance upon any disclosures made during any meeting between the Parties or in reliance on any results of the discussions. The furnishing of Proprietary Information to one Party by the other Party will not obligate either Party to enter into any further agreement or negotiation with the other.
- 8.6 Nothing contained in this Agreement will be construed as granting to one Party a license, either express or implied, under any patent, copyright or trademark, now or hereafter owned, obtained, controlled, or which is or may be licensable by the other Party.
- 8.7 Except for public filings, litigation, or other administrative or judicial proceedings arising from or related to the Agreement, all publicity regarding this Agreement and its Attachments is subject to the Parties' prior written consent.
- 8.8 Unless otherwise agreed upon, neither Party will publish or use the other Party's name, language, pictures, or symbols from which the other Party's name may be reasonably inferred or implied in any advertising, promotion, or any other publicity matter relating directly or indirectly to this Agreement.

#### SECTION 9. LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY

- 9.1 Neither Party will be liable for any act or omission of the other Party in the furnishing of that Party's service to its customers.
- 9.1.1 Where facilities and/or trunks provided by either party hereunder to the other for purposes of exchanging Local Traffic are out of service FOR REASONS OTHER THAN THE GROSS NEGLIGENCE OR WILLFUL MISCONDUCT OF A PARTY HERETO, the sole remedy available by a party hereto against the other party hereto shall be for the recovery of amounts paid (if any) for the subject facility, pro-rated for the duration of the period during which service was interrupted (such claims for recovery shall be made within 60 days of the occurrence of the relevant event). Claims for consequential damages shall not be made as between the parties in such circumstances, including but not limited to claims for damages or expenses arising from customer claims, it being understood that each party will bear the costs and expenses of defending and/or satisfying its own customers' claims. Any and all out of service conditions discovered by a party will be reported immediately to the other party, and both parties will immediately use commercially reasonable efforts to restore service.
- 9.2 To the extent not prohibited by law or tariff and except as otherwise provided in the Agreement, each Party will indemnify, defend and hold harmless the other Party from any loss, cost, claim, injury or liability brought by a person not a Party under this Agreement which is proximately caused by the negligent acts or omissions or willful misconduct of the indemnifying Party or its employees, agents or contractors in connection with the performance of this Agreement. Such indemnity only extends to the

Page 12

comparative degree of negligence attributable to the indemnifying Party, as determined by state law negligence standards.

- 9.3 To the extent not prohibited by law or tariff, Rhinelander Telephone Company will reimburse Carrier for damages to premises or equipment of Carrier resulting from the installation or removal of facilities, services or arrangements by Rhinelander Telephone Company and/or its employees or agents on such premises if predominately caused by the sole or comparative negligence or willful misconduct of Rhinelander Telephone Company, its employees or agents.
- 9.4 Carrier will reimburse Rhinelander Telephone Company for damages to facilities of Rhinelander Telephone Company provided under this Agreement if predominantly caused by the sole or comparative negligence or willful act of Carrier or due to malfunction of any facilities or equipment provided to Carrier by an entity, other than Rhinelander Telephone Company. Rhinelander Telephone Company will cooperate with Carrier in prosecuting a claim against the person causing such damage and Carrier will be subrogated to Rhinelander Telephone Company right to recover for the damages to the extent of such payment.
- 9.5 Each Party will reimburse the other Party for any loss through theft of facilities provided under this Agreement on such Party's premises attributable to the reimbursing Party's actions (or to that of its agents or employees), except to the extent that such loss is due to the other Party's comparative negligence.
- 9.6 The Parties will cooperate with each other in the defense of any suit, claim or demand by third persons against either or both of them arising out of the connection arrangements and interchange of traffic including, without limitation, Workers Compensation claims, actions for infringement of copyright and/or unauthorized use of program material, libel and slander actions based on the content of communications.
- 9.7 Neither Party will be required to reimburse the other for any claim or loss pursuant to this Section 9 arising out of a single incident, where the amount in controversy is less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

## **SECTION 10. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

- 10.1 Rhinelander Telephone Company and Carrier will each defend, indemnify, hold harmless the other Party and/or acquire any license or right for the benefit of the other Party, arising from any claim, demand or proceeding (hereinafter "Claim") by any third party alleging or asserting that the use of any circuit, apparatus, or system, or other facilities, or the use of any software, or the performance of any service or method, or the provision or use of any facilities by either Rhinelander Telephone Company or Carrier under this Agreement constitutes direct or contributory infringement, or misuse or misappropriation of any patent, copyright, trademark, trade secret, or any other proprietary or intellectual property right of any third party. Each Party's indemnification obligation will be to the extent of infringement by the indemnifying Party
- 10.2 Nothing in this Agreement will be construed as the grant of a license by, or the creation of an estoppel against, Rhinelander Telephone Company, either express or implied, with respect to any patent, copyright, trademark, trade secret or any other proprietary or intellectual property right now or hereafter owned, controlled or licensable by Rhinelander Telephone Company, except to the extent necessary for Carrier to use any facilities or equipment (including software) or to receive any service provided by Rhinelander Telephone Company under this Agreement.

## **SECTION 11. DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTIES**

11.1 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS AGREEMENT (INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION THE PARTIES' RESPECTIVE INDEMNIFICATION OBLIGATIONS), THE

PARTIES AGREE THAT NEITHER PARTY HAS MADE, AND THAT THERE EXISTS, NO WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, THAT THE USE BY CARRIER OR RHINELANDER TELEPHONE COMPANYOF FACILITIES, ARRANGEMENTS, OR SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT WILL NOT GIVE RISE TO A CLAIM BY ANY THIRD PARTY OF INFRINGEMENT, MISUSE, OR MISAPPROPRIATION OF ANY INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHT OF SUCH THIRD PARTY.

- 11.2 RHINELANDER TELEPHONE COMPANY WILL PROVIDE INTERCONNECTION TO CARRIER OF A QUALITY AND IN A DILIGENT MANNER CONSISTENT WITH SERVICE RHINELANDER TELEPHONE COMPANY PROVIDES TO ITS CUSTOMERS AND OTHER INTERCONNECTORS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR INTERCONNECTION SERVICES ESTABLISHED IN THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY. RHINELANDER TELEPHONE COMPANY MAKES NO OTHER WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, WITH RESPECT TO TRANSMISSION, EQUIPMENT OR SERVICE PROVIDED HEREUNDER, AND EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ANY WARRANTY OF MERCHANTIBILITY OR FITNESS FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSE.
- 11.3 It is the express intent of the Parties that each Party be solely responsible for all claims of its endusers, including, without limitation, any credits or adjustments that may be issued or required to be issued to its end-users, except to the extent such claims are found to be caused by the other Party's gross negligence or willful misconduct.
- 11.4 Except for allowance of interruptions as set forth in Section 5, in no event will either Party be liable to the other Party for incidental, special, or consequential damages, loss of goodwill, anticipated profit, or other claims for indirect or special damages in any manner related to this Agreement or the services even if such Party was advised of the possibility of such damages, and whether or not such damages were foreseeable or not at the time this Agreement was executed.

#### **SECTION 12. RECORD RETENTION**

- 12.1 All data associated with the provision and receipt of Service(s) pursuant to this Agreement will be maintained for the greater of:
  - (i) the retention time required by law for maintaining Federal, State, and Local tax information;
  - (ii) the retention time required by law or regulation in order to substantiate or reconstruct an End-User invoice; and
  - (iii) the retention time currently used by Rhinelander Telephone Company for its billing information or Carrier for its own billing information, in compliance with legal or regulatory requirements; or
  - (iv) the retention time as agreed to by both Parties in writing.
- 12.2 Either Party will, upon reasonable request, furnish copies or otherwise make available to the other Party its licenses and other federal and, if applicable, state regulatory authorizations.

## **SECTION 13. AMENDMENTS; WAIVERS**

- 13.1 This Agreement may be amended only by written agreement signed by authorized representatives of both Parties.
- 13.2 No waiver of any provisions of this Agreement and no consent to any default under this Agreement will be effective unless the same is in writing and signed by or on behalf of the Party against whom such waiver or consent is claimed.

13.3 No course of dealing or failure of either Party to strictly enforce any term, covenant or condition of this Agreement in any one or more instances will be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of any such terms, covenants or conditions, but the same will be and will remain in full force and effect.

#### **SECTION 14. NOTICES AND DEMANDS**

14.1 All notices, demands or requests which may be given by any Party to the other Party under this Agreement (other than Trouble reports and Notice of Interruption pursuant to Sections 3 and 5) are to be in writing (or made electronically, followed by written confirmation thereof) and will be deemed to have been duly delivered on the date delivered in person or three (3) business days after the date deposited, postage prepaid, in the United States Mail via certified mail return receipt requested, or the day after delivery to an overnight courier and addressed as follows:

For Carrier:

American Cellular Corporation Attn: Timothy J. Duffy 14201 Wireless Way, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73134

To Frontier Rhinelander Telephone Company:

Frontier, A Citizens Communications Company Attention: Access Verification 14500 Burnhaven Dr. Suite 193 Burnsville, MN 55306

- 14.2 If personal delivery is selected as the method of giving notice under this Section, a receipt of such delivery will be obtained.
- 14.3 The address to which such notices, demands, requests, elections or other communications may be given by either Party may be changed by written notice given by such Party to other Party pursuant to this Section.

## **SECTION 15. ASSIGNMENT**

Neither Party shall assign any right, obligation or duty, in whole or in part, or any other interest, without the written consent of the other Party, except either Party may assign all or part of its rights and obligations to any legal entity which is a subsidiary or Affiliate of that Party without consent, but with written notification. For purposes of this Agreement, an "Affiliate" of a Party is any entity directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by, or under common control with said Party, and "control" means the ownership of, or the power to vote the equity securities or comparable interests of, forty percent (40%) or more the controlled entity. Such written consent to assignment to all other entities will not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. All obligations and duties of any Party under this Agreement will be binding on all successors in interest and assigns of such Party and such assignment will not waive any right or remedy available to either Party under law, regulation or this Agreement, including without limitation the right of set-off. Each Party, upon written notice to the other, may from time to time and without additional consideration add any of its future Affiliates as parties to this Agreement and the other Party shall reasonably cooperate in amending this Agreement to effect such an addition; provided, however, such addition is subject to the condition that any such added Affiliate of Rhinelander Telephone Company be an incumbent local exchange carrier and any such added Affiliate of Carrier be a Wireless Carrier.

## **SECTION 16. DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

Any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement, or the breach thereof, will be resolved by both Parties according to the procedures set forth below.

The Parties agree that in the event of a default or any other dispute arising hereunder or in connection herewith, the aggrieved Party shall first discuss the default or dispute with the other Party and seek resolution prior to taking any action before any court or regulator or before authorizing any public statement about or disclosure of the nature of the dispute to any third party. Such conferences shall if necessary be escalated to the vice presidential level for each Party. In the event that the Parties shall be unable to resolve a default or other dispute, the Parties shall then submit the matter to the PSC for non-binding mediation. If mediation by the PSC is unsuccessful, recourse may be had by either Party to the PSC or FCC, if either commission has jurisdiction over the breach or dispute or to an appropriate court having jurisdiction over the Parties. Each Party shall bear the cost of preparing and presenting its case through all phases of the dispute resolution procedure herein described.

#### SECTION 17. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Agreement, including the preamble and all Attachments hereto, constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties and supersedes all prior or contemporaneous oral or written agreements, representations, statements, negotiations, understandings, proposals and undertakings with respect to the subject matter hereof. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, neither Party is to be bound by any pre-printed terms appearing in the other Party's form documents, tariffs, purchase orders, quotations, acknowledgments, invoices, or other instruments. All exhibits referred to in this Agreement are incorporated herein by reference.

## **SECTION 18. GOVERNING LAW**

This Agreement will be deemed to be a contract made under and will be construed, interpreted and enforced in accordance with the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and, to the extent federal law is inapplicable, to the laws of the State of interconnection and will be subject to the concurrent jurisdiction of the Federal Communications Commission and the courts, public service commission, and other agencies in that state.

## **SECTION 19. EXECUTED IN COUNTERPARTS**

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which is to be an original, but such counterparts will together constitute but one and the same document.

## **SECTION 20. HEADINGS**

The headings and numbering of Sections and paragraphs in this Agreement are for convenience only and will not be construed to define or limit any of the terms herein or affect the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement.

#### **SECTION 21. FORCE MAJEURE**

Neither Party will be held liable for any delay or failure in performance of any part of this Agreement from any cause reasonably beyond its control and without its fault or negligence, including, but not limited to, acts of God, acts of civil or military authority, government regulations or orders, embargoes, epidemics, war, terrorist acts, riots, insurrections, fires, explosions, earthquakes, nuclear accidents, floods, labor difficulties or strikes, power blackouts, unusually severe weather conditions, inability to secure products or services or other persons or transportation facilities, or acts or omissions of transportation common carriers (collectively referred to as "Force Majeure" conditions). The Party whose performance is impaired by such Force Majeure condition will exercise commercially reasonable efforts to mitigate the

effects thereof; and neither Party has any obligation to pay for any services disrupted or not provided during the period of such Force Majeure.

#### **SECTION 22. REGULATORY APPROVALS**

- 22.1 Although this Agreement may be executed by both Parties, to the extent that any federal or state statute, order, rule or regulation or any state regulatory agency having competent jurisdiction over one or both Parties to this Agreement will require that this Agreement be approved by such regulatory agency before this Agreement may be effective, this Agreement will not be effective in such state notwithstanding the Parties' signature until the first business day after such approval has been obtained.
- 22.2 Each Party agrees to cooperate with each other and with any regulatory agency so that any approval necessary to provide the Service(s) under this Agreement is obtained. During the term of this Agreement, each Party agrees to continue to cooperate with each other and with any regulatory agency so that the benefits of this Agreement may be achieved.

#### **SECTION 23. SEVERABILITY**

In the event that any one or more of the provisions contained herein, is, for any reason, held to be unenforceable in any respect under law or regulation, the remainder of this Agreement will not be affected thereby and will continue in full force and effect, unless removal of that provision results in a material change to this Agreement. In such a case, the Parties will negotiate in good faith for replacement language. If replacement language cannot be agreed upon, either Party may invoke the dispute resolution procedures of Section 17 foregoing.

#### SECTION 24. CONDITIONS TO INDEMNIFICATION

Upon a request for indemnification owed by either party (the "indemnifying Party") to the other (the "indemnified Party") under this Agreement, the indemnified Party shall promptly notify the indemnifying Party of any and all threats, written claims, or demands for which indemnification is sought under this Agreement. Each Party shall cooperate fully with the other, and the indemnifying Party shall control such defense and the right to litigate, settle, appeal (provided it pays the cost of any required appeal bond), compromise or otherwise deal with any such claim or resulting judgment; provided further that such settlement, compromise or other resolution of such claim does not result in any liability to the indemnified Party. The indemnified Party shall have the right to retain to undertake its own defense or settlement of any such threat, claim or demand upon written notice to the indemnifying Party, whereupon the indemnifying Party's indemnification obligations with respect to such threat, claim or demand (but not with respect to any other) shall automatically be excused.

## **SECTION 25. NO JOINT VENTURE**

Nothing herein contained shall be construed as creating a partnership or joint venture by or between the Parties.

#### **SECTION 26. REMEDIES**

Unless stated otherwise, all remedies provided for in this Agreement shall be cumulative, nonexclusive and in addition to, but not in lieu of, any other remedies available to either Party at law, in equity, or otherwise.

## SECTION 27. TIME OF ESSENCE

Time is of the essence of this Agreement.

## **SECTION 28. PRONOUNS**

Pronouns used herein are to be construed as masculine, feminine, or neuter, and both singular and plural, as the context may require; the term "person" includes an individual, corporation, association, partnership, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, trust, and any other organization; and the term "includes" is to be construed as without limitation.

## **SECTION 29. FURTHER ASSURANCES**

From and after the date of this Agreement, each of the Parties shall, from time to time, at the request of the other Party and without further consideration, do, execute and deliver, cause to be done, executed and delivered, all such further acts, things and instruments as may be reasonably requested or required more effectively to evidence and give effect to the transactions contemplated by this Agreement.

The Parties thereto have caused this Interconnection and Traffic Interchange Agreement for Cellular and Other 2-Way Mobile Radio Services to be executed in their behalf on the dates set forth below:

For Carrier:	For Frontier Rhinelander Telephone Company:
American Cellular Corporation Attn: Timothy J. Duffy 14201 Wireless Way, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73134  By:	Citizens Communications Attn: Director - Carrier Services 180 South Clinton Avenue Rochester, New York 14646 Telephone: (585) 777-7124 Fax: (585) 424-1196  By:
Typed: Timothy J. Duffy	Typed: Laurie Maffett
Title: Vice President	Title: Vice President – Regulatory and Government Affairs
Date: \-27-03	Date: Dislo3

## **ATTACHMENT 1**

## **CONTACT LIST**

24-HOUR REPAIR CENTER - 1-800-565-1619

## **SERVICE ATTACHMENT - TYPE 2A**

## Section 1 - Description

Rhinelander Telephone Company i	nterconnection location: Rhinela	nder, Wisc	
	Point of Interconnection (POI):	RHNLWICE0MD	
NPA_715 NXX _282,361,362, 3	65, 369, 427, 272,275,277,487,4	178,649	
Carrier's interconnection location:	Rhinelander,Wisc	OCN6819, 6957	
	Point of Interconnection (POI):	_RHNLWICE0MD	
NPA 715 NXX			
297,432,551,571,574,613,615,512,	205,271,279,290,296,317,360,3	67,371,402,403,4004,456,464,494,505,51	2
518,520,541,550,556,559,584,586,	587,603,604,605,610,612,614,6	16,617,631,633,671,699,702,703,704,761	,7
64,768,776,777,790,791,816,817,8	21,826,827,828,829,921,922		
NPA 920 NXX 618,664,671,672	_		
Legal Entities: _American Cellula	Corporation		
-		- 101 101 101 101 101 101 101 101 101 10	
Knineiander Telepi	none Company		

## Section 2 - Usage Sensitive Charges

2.1 Charges for Reciprocal Transport and Termination of Local Traffic Interchanged Between The Parties:

The land-to-mobile originating rate is limited in application to Land-to-Mobile (Originating) Local Traffic that originates with Rhinelander Telephone Company in its Local Calling Area and terminates to Carrier. The mobile-to-land terminating rate is limited in application to Mobile-to-Land (Terminating) Local Traffic that originates with Carrier and terminates at a point within a Rhinelander Telephone Company Exchange Area . All other traffic is subject to access rates.

Reciprocal Termination Charges are assessed on a per minute basis. The rates at which the Parties shall compensate each other for Local Traffic are set forth on the Service Attachments to this Agreement. For the interchange of Non-Local Traffic, Carrier shall pay Rhinelander Telephone Company at the applicable switched access service tariff rate.

The rates in this Section 2 constitute compensation to the Parties for both the transport and termination of local traffic interchanged between them.

2.2 Mobile-to-Land (Terminating to Rhinelander Telephone Company) per minute\* \$0.0112

Land-to-Mobile (Carrier charges Rhinelander Telephone Company) per minute \$0.0112

\$<u>0.0112</u>

Wireline to Wireline (Land to Land)

Tandem Transit (Terminating to third party) per minute

\$.0055

Non-MTA\*\*

Bill and Keep

Access rates apply

\*limited in application to calls originating on Carrier's system within its Service
Area and terminating at a point in a Rhinelander Telephone Company exchange area within the

MTA

\*\*applicable to mobile-to-land (terminating) calls terminating at a point in a Rhinelander Telephone Company exchange area but which is not Local Traffic.

## Section 3 - Network Facilities

If Rhinelander Telephone Company is requested to provide facilities between the Point of Interconnection and any Carrier facilities or locations within Rhinelander Telephone Company Service Area, such facilities will be provided pursuant to the special access services' provisions of Rhinelander Telephone Company FCC #1 Tariff. The rates for such facilities are subject to change during the term of this Agreement.

## Section 4 - Traffic Factors

Mobile-to-Land Traffic Factor	66.67%
Land-to-Mobile Traffic Factor	33.33%

Transit Factor applicable to Mobile to Land Traffic Transiting Tandem to subtending offices

33.33% of Mobile-to-Land Traffic